

April 13th, 2023

Testimony regarding operative budget FY 2024.

Honorable Montgomery County Council

Good evening,

My name is Nubia Ladino and I am a resident of Silver Spring, district 3, in Montgomery County.

There are important problems in public safety that need to be addressed. These issues can be addressed with governability and economic funds. I am requesting to allocate more funds to public service, education, and the impact of domestic violence among nonmarried couples living together.

I am requesting, as a Maryland resident and a victim of these issues, to do the following:

An increment of funds in public safety to address civil safety. I ask to work together along with government rulers, community, and police department towards civil order.

1- According to statistics, with 1 being a low level of crime and 100 a high level of crime, Montgomery County is at 33.5% in violent crime and the US average is 35.4%. These numbers show that the crime has increased in our community, and the people who are more affected are our children. Out of all the crimes, children are involved in 13% of those crimes.

2- I am requesting to allocate funds for legal help, especially with family law.

Families need to be protected even if they are not legally married. It should not be any discrimination against families that cohabit without being married. This change can be done with a law to cover our multicultural families in Maryland.

According to the United States Census, there has been a dramatic increase in cohabitating couples in the last three decades. The number of couples cohabitating tripled from 1970 to 1980, from 523,000 to 1,560,000. From 1980 to 1990 the numbers went from 1,589,000 to 2,856,000. The total number of nonmarried couples living together has increased to 5,475,768, including same sex couples. This was an increase of 72% in the last decade. The increase of cohabitating couples in Maryland was 46.9%.

Sincerely,

Nubia Ladino

Community Service.